

# **WØMTL - Mark Twain Land Area News - WØKEM**

## **MARCH 2008**

### **HARC OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT:** HOWARD BARNES, KØDFW  
**V-PRES:** J.D. SINCLAIR, WØAJD  
**SECRETARY:** FRED MILLER, KBØWIL  
**TREASURER:** TONY GILLILAND, WØPGL  
**TRUSTEE:** CLIFF AHRENS, KØCA  
**EDITOR:** BONNIE SINCLAIR, WBØWAP

**Next Meeting: Wednesday  
March 12, - 2008 at 7:30 PM**

Regular Meetings are held at Beth Haven Nursing Home, 2500 Pleasant St., Hannibal, Mo.  
Enter at the main entrance; turn left through the lounge area to the elevator. Take the elevator down to the first floor, and go to your right/left around the corner, down the hall to the cafeteria.

### **FCC VE TEST DATES FOR YEAR OF 2008**

#### **Hannibal, MO ARC 2008 Exam Dates**

Wednesday, April 9, 2008 - 8:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, July 9, 2008 - 8:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, October 8, 2008 - 8:30 p.m.

They will take place at 8:30 PM after the regular scheduled HARC meeting. The exam session will be at the Beth Haven Nursing Home, in the Cafeteria on the 1st (lower) Floor, 2500 Pleasant St., Hannibal, MO. Registration is required at least 72 hours before the exam session by contacting the team liaison, Cliff Ahrens KØCA at k0ca@arrl.net or 573-221-8618.

The 2008 test fee will be \$14.00. It goes to ARRL/VEC. Bring a photo ID (or two non-photo ID's); if currently licensed, bring the original and a photocopy of your valid FCC license; and if you are claiming credit for successful completion of an exam, bring the original and photocopy of any applicable CSCE's.

**HANNIBAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

### **MINUTES**

**By Fred Miller, KBØWIL**

**DATE:** February 9, 2008

Meeting/dinner called to order by: Howie- K0DFW  
El Presidente

#### **TREASURERS REPORT:** Tony-W0PGL

Cash- \$1,058.42    CD-\$ 1,215.38  
Total-\$2,273.80

#### **REPEATER REPORT:** Fred-KB0WIL

The 625 repeater has intermittent trouble with the squelch opening up. Fred-KB0WIL has turned up the squelch control on the GE radio. We will see if this helps. The trouble could be another repeater breaking the squelch, or, a very weak station in the distance trying to access the repeater, or even atmospheric conditions. We will keep monitoring the repeater and inform you of any new developments. The 880 repeater is working great.

#### **HARC Supper/Get together February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

The dinner/get together we held at the Golden Corral was fun for all. The food was great, and we all had a good time. Cliff-KØCA donated a 2007-08 Repeater Directory, Howie-K0DFW brought in several Yaesu & Icom hats, maps, frequency charts and other ham items. The club also gave away several door prizes. So everyone who came, took something home. If you didn't attend, you really missed out. We had 25 attending, members and their families.

#### **HARC MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2007:**

The club presented Fred-KB0WIL with his HARC member of the year 2007 plaque.

Minutes of the meeting/dinner as recorded by:  
Fred-KB0WIL....Secretary...

### **SPECIAL EVENT: K9P- APRIL 24-26, 2008:**

The HARC is going to have a special event (K9P) on April 24<sup>th</sup> – April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008, at the Redneck Retreat at Carol & Nancy Bartlett's home in Barry, IL. We have done this event for several years, and it is always a lot of fun. This event is listed in the April QST special events section.

Carol & Nancy are gracious hosts, well, Nancy is anyway. If we can get Coonie to keep Carol in line, we will have it made.

### **FIELD DAY JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup> –JUNE 29<sup>TH</sup> 2008:**

We will once again be operating the HARC Field Day, June 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The operating command center will be at Huckleberry Park, Hannibal Mo., at the pavilion, close to the fire station. We will keep you updated in regards to the equipment, supplies, computers, etc., that we will be using. Reservations have been appropriated.

### **HARC BARBEQUE: Saturday August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008**

We voted to have the club barbeque again this year. We will be having it at the Huckleberry Park pavilion. More information will follow in the upcoming newsletters. Reservations have been appropriated.

### **HARC 2008 DUES !!!!**

The HARC dues for 2008 are now due, please pay Tony-W0PGL. He will be glad to take your money. Please pay by the March meeting, if possible, in order to keep the club roster current.

### **HARC WEBSITE UPDATE:**

The club now has the domain names of: <http://www.w0kem.com> & <http://www.w0kem.org>. The website remains the same, you can now access it with either one of the above listed url's. Thanks to Aaron-KB0YKI for doing this for the club.

Total in attendance: 25

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### **FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK MARCH 2008 BY HOWARD BARNES K0DFW**

Well the sun came out today and melted the snow all off, and the cardinals where singing at the top of their voices, so does that mean spring can't be far away? Your guess is as good as mine. I have been watching the local reflector of the DX Club here in the area and there is a lot of dx out there to work. The guys in the dx club have been busy chasing the dx. I personally haven't had much time to work the low bands this winter but hope to more as warm weather gets here. I understand from a lot of the club members that the hamfest from Collinsville, Ill. was really a good one this year. All the booths were sold out, and had some really good deals for the right buyer. I didn't make it down this time but heard that Daryl, N9DT bought a new rig. A Yaesu, with lots of bells and whistles. Must be nice to have a lot of money. If you see Daryl ask him about it. I'm sure he has a story for you.

We may be doing some antenna work on the .625 machine this spring. Not for sure what we will be doing but stay tuned, and we will keep you posted on what gives on the antenna work. We have a lot of noise on the repeater when the wind is blowing and we are looking to fix it. Maybe change antennas as well. Stay tuned!

We have K9P coming up in April, which will be ran from the Red Neck retreat, compliments of Carol WA9EFV. This will be a special event station for the UNITED STATES PRACTICAL SHOOTING ASSOCIATION and we will be sending out QSLs for working this event. It has been advertised in all the major magazines, and if the bands cooperate, it will be fun, I assure you!

I am trying to get a program set up on welding fiber optic cable for the next meeting but

as of this minute don't have it confirmed yet!  
Listen in on the 2 meter net on Mondays at 8:00 pm, and I will announce it when I find out for sure. This is a really neat operation, and it is all done with a \$10,000 machine. So don't miss it if we get it for the next meeting.

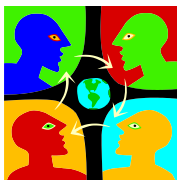
If anyone out there has something that they would like to bring to one of the meetings for this year that is about 15 to 30 minutes long, let me know, and I will set you up for a demo at one of the meetings. Contact Howard K0DFW.

We are going to have to get together and make some things for Field Day. We need to construct some antenna poles for our wire antennas, and these will be made ready for any disasters that we may be called into service in the future. You can never be too prepared for such things.

I would like to take a minute to talk about a fellow club member, and may I say a good friend, and that would be Jerry Morris K7TTF. He is a long time member in good standing, and a past president, and very active ham radio operator, with a passion for running CW on the HF bands. Jerry and I have worked very closely together on setting up, and running past Field Days, and he is a very capable manager. Always aware of his surroundings, and catering to other peoples needs. He has retired from his job as a general manager of a huge chain of rock quarries scattered all over the Midwest, and he and his wife are going to be moving back to Arizona in the future. All I can say is that we, and especially I, will miss him very much. The club is loosing one of its "good ones"! I know that I can speak for the club, and say that we wish him and his wife, nothing but the best for them, and hope to see them on the bands in the future. Good bye old friend!

The next meeting is March 12 at the Beth Haven Nursing home at 7:30 pm in the basement meeting room. Hope to see you all there!!!

73s Howard K0DFW



*Around the World*

## **DX & Computer Horizons** **March 2008** **by Cliff Ahrens K0CA**

The VP6DX Ducie Island DXpedition was the big DX news from February. With well over 120,000 QSOs and still going as I type this, they have put on an excellent and efficiently run operation. Their online log search Web page graphically rewards trying to fill in all the boxes for every band/mode, and lists the DXers with the highest totals. Many hams have taken up the challenge, working them on up to 20 different band/modes.

February also saw a flurry of DX activity from Kosovo, which declared its independence from Serbia on Sunday, February 17. There were several YU8 stations on the bands, including an operation by Martti OH2BH and Daily DX editor Bernie W3UR. The ARRL DXCC desk answered a number of questions about whether the operations counted as a new DXCC entity by noting that under the DXCC Rules, Kosovo will be added to the DXCC list if it becomes a member of the UN, or if it receives a prefix bloc from the ITU. See <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/02/20/102/?nc=1>. Neither event has happened yet, so for DXCC purposes Kosovo still counts as Serbia for DXCC. With all the political turmoil and violence which has occurred in the wake of Kosovo's independence, let's hope and pray for the safety of all the people of that region as well as all the visiting DXers.

March will start off with a bang for DXers, with the ARRL DX Phone Contest the first weekend, March 1-2. DX will fill the bands. Get on the air and have some fun. Now here's some other planned DX operations during March.

CLIPPERTON, FO0. The TX5C DXpedition to Clipperton plans to be QRV from March 7 to 17. QSL via N7CQQ ARC. For updated information and online log search, go to: <http://www.clipperton2008.org/>.

RWANDA, 9X. The 9X0R DXpedition from Rwanda is scheduled March 16 to 27. For more details and updated information, go to [www.9x0r.com](http://www.9x0r.com). The ten-man team plans to be active on all modes and on 10m through 160m, with three stations on the air in different bands/modes. QSL via EA5RM.

CRETE, SV9. Look for Willi SV9/DJ7RJ to operate from Crete from February 25 to March 15. He plans to be active on 160 to 10 meters, on both CW and SSB. QSL via home call.

SOUTH AFRICA, ZS. John, G3LZQ, will sign ZS3/G3LZQ from February 23 to March 15. John will operate CW on all bands, concentrating on 160 and 80 meters. He plans to be active in the March 1-3 ARRL DX contest.

Kenya, 5Z. DL7DF Sigi plans to be on the air during his vacation to Kenya February 27-March 11, signing 5Z4HW. QSL via DL7DF direct or bureau.

For those of you using a computer running the Windows Vista operating system, check out KR1ST's DX Spotter, a DX spotting sidebar gadget that shows updated DX spots from DX Summit on your desktop. It's free for download from: <http://www.kr1st.com/spotter.htm>.

Thanks to the ARRL DX Bulletin, the Daily DX and the Ohio/Penn DX bulletin for some of the information in this month's column.

73 and good DX, Cliff K0CA



Fred, KBØWIL, has worn many hats while being a member, and secretary, of the Hannibal Area Radio Club. All of the events, and happenings would not have gone off as smoothly as they have, if Fred had not put forth the effort of doing so many things on his own for the club. He soooooo deserved the Member of the Year Award!! Congratulations Fred!! We do notice and appreciate all the things you do.

Thanks!! Thanks!! and Thanks again!



### NET CONTROL OPERATORS 2M 146.625/146.880

#### MARCH 2008

3	KØDFW	HOWARD
10	N9UPG	BILL
17	KB9VIS	BRIAN
24	KBØWIL	FRED
31	WØAJD	JD

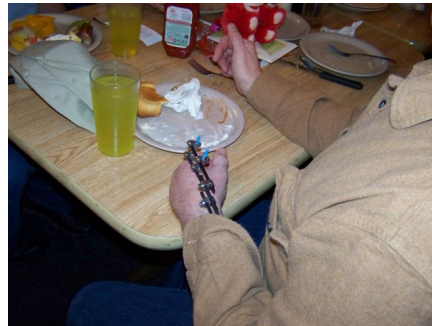
Thanks to those of you who volunteer to call the net on Monday evenings. We would like to have more operators participate, so if you are able to call the net, please contact Fred, KBØWIL, and we will add your name to the list. Also, if any of the members listed are not going to be available, please contact one of the other members to replace you. **Here are some pictures taken at the February HARC Dinner Get-together at Golden Corral**  
Thanks to Mary Scranton for the great pictures.





**HARC MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2007:**

Howard, K0DFW, HARC president, presented Fred, KB0WIL, HARC Secretary, with his HARC member of the year 2007 plaque.



**This is Fred's bionic hand!**

**His Mascot!**



**This is our smiling waitress. She did a wonderful job spoiling us all.**

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